Inquiry into sale of Dhara oil

1808. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dhara oil is being packed and sold in Tetra pack and if so, the cost of each type of packing and royalty payed thereon; and

(b) whether it is a fact that many Tetrapack machines are lying idle which were obtained on a single tender?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Dhara oils are packed and sold in tetrapack packs. The use of tetrapack system for Dhara does not involve payment of any royalty. The cost of packing depends on several factors like cost of paper, power, labour, etc. which vary from time to time.

(b) No, Sir. All the machines have been brought into use.

"सरदार सरोवर परियोजना बरसात में आठ गांव डुबो देगी" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार

1809. श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा : क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 10 जुलाई, 1991 के "जनसत्ता" दिल्ली संस्करण में "सरदार सरोवर परियोजना बरसात में आठ गांव डुबो देगी" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उसके लिए क्या-क्या सुधारात्मक उपाए किए गए हैं ?

जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल) : (क) और (ख) सरकार को इस समाचार का पता है । तथापि, सरदार सरोवर परियोजना के निर्माण के कारण वर्ष 1991 के वर्षा मौसम में जलमग्नता के अन्तर्गत कोई गांव नहीं आ रहा है । सरदार सरोवर बांध के बिना भी 1 से 100 वर्षों तक बारम्बार आने वाली बाढ़ों के कारण गुजरात के 6 गांव, महाराष्ट्र के 16 गांव तथा मध्य प्रदेश के 142 गांव प्रभावित होते हैं । राज्य सरकारों को ऐसी संभाव्य घटना के मामले में इन गांवों में बाढ़ चेतावनी जारी करने की सलाह दी गयी है ताकि लोग सुरक्षित स्थानों पर जा सकें । केन्द्रीय जल आयोग द्वारा जारी किए जाने वाले बाढ़ पूर्वानुमानों के आधार पर बाढ़ चेतावनी जारी करने के लिए कार्यपद्धतियां भी निर्धारित की गयी हैं ।

Export of wheat

1810. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to export 10 lakh MT of wheat this year; and

(b) whether Government would ensure that the benefits of the above export go to the producer-farmers and not to the middlemen/business men?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes. Sir. A quota of 10 lakh metric tonnes of wheat has been released for export during the year 1991-92.

(b) The recent exchange rate adjustments and enlarged Replenishment scheme (Exim Scrips) have made our agricultural products more competitive. Hence our export of foodgrains is expected to increase. This would also have a beneficial impact on the farmers in the long term who would get a better price for their produce due to enhanced demand.

Encroachment on roads in Delhi

1811. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which

appeared in the 'Indan Express' dated the 13th July, 1991 under the caption "Police traders nexus on road encroachments" in Capital;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to inquire into such illegal encroachments etc. to ascertain whether the police and civic officials in connivance with the traders have actually encouraged encroachments on busy roads in the capital; and

(c) what further steps Government would take to remove such encroachment etc., in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The contents of the report are being examined for appropriate action.

Prices of Dhara Oil

1812. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of 'Dhara' vegetable and ground nut oils have been increased thrice in the past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) what were the prime objectives allowing N.D.D.B. to manufacture these products;

(d) whether some discussions have been held with the NDDB about pricing policy and supplies of edible oils; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps to be taken to bring down prices of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The details of Dhara price revision in the period July 1990 to June 1991 are given in the Statement. [*See* Appendix 159, Annexure No. 53]. Increases in interest rates and processing and marketing costs have necessitated these price revisions.

(c) Dhara operations are a part of NDDB's market intervention operations in edible oil and oilseeds. The retail marketing strategy of Dhara aims at rapidly moving the product through a disciplined marketing system to reach wider consumer markets. NDDB is marketing the Dhara brand of edible oils to link producers directly with consumers.

(d) and (e) The pricing and supply strategy for Dhara is a part of the overall strategy for market intervention operations approved by Government which has designated NDDB as the market intervention agency. In comparison with other brands of edible oil, Dhara is very competitively priced.

Flood relief to Orissa

1813. SHRI PRAVANT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the then Prime Minister after visiting ASKA flood site of Orissa on the 6th November, decided to provide fifty crores aid to flood victims for rehabilitation; and

(b) if so, whether the said amount has been provided to the State Government of Orissa, if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The then Prime Minister had stated in his speech at Aska that Rs. 35 crores had already been given to the State and on the previous day, had been arranged Rs. 50 crores for Orissa Government.